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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/811,357	03/25/2004	Guy J. Shovlin	TI-37201	2087

23494 7590 11/21/2006

TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INCORPORATED
P O BOX 655474, M/S 3999
DALLAS, TX 75265

EXAMINER

WILLIAMS, HOWARD L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2819

DATE MAILED: 11/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/811,357

Applicant(s)

SHOVLIN ET AL.

Examiner

Howard L. Williams

Art Unit

2819

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 16-18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-13 and 15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7 and 14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3-6, 8, 9, 11-13, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Rudin ((US 4016483 A). Rudin discloses a circuit including a series connected resistor string with the resistors shunted by fusible links and/or diodes (figs. 2 & 5; abstract "singly or in combination"). The resistors in the Rudin string draw to the claimed detecting device. The fusible links read upon the trim tracking links and the diodes read upon the calibration diode device. Probe points (i.e. pads) are disclosed by Rudin in column 7, lines 50-60.


Claims 2 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Oosugi et al. (US 6144248 A). Oosugi et al. discloses in figure 1 a circuit with a series connected arrangement of diodes (diode connected transistors) parallel with fusible links. A probe point could be either the output terminal or the input terminal or the supply terminal. The fuse links are blown to place the corresponding diode in circuit by removing the effective short circuit inserting the diode drop to the output.

Claims 7, 14 are objected to but would be allowable over the art of record if rewritten to include the limitations of their respective independent claim and intervening claims. Claims 16-18 are allowed. The art of record was not seen to show a circuit with series diode string shunted by fuses and including an additional calibration diode device.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. MOTAI (JP 05289758 A), Masuda (US 4673866 A), TATEISHI (JP 10335594 A), and KIM et al (KR 2001018087 A) (partial document) each disclose either resistors or diodes series connected with shunt connections for adjusting the number of elements contributing to the circuit response.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Howard L. Williams at telephone number 571.272.1815. The Patent and Trademark Office central facsimile number for application specific correspondence intended for entry is 571-273-8300.

11/17/06
Voice: (571) 272-1815


Howard L. Williams
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2819